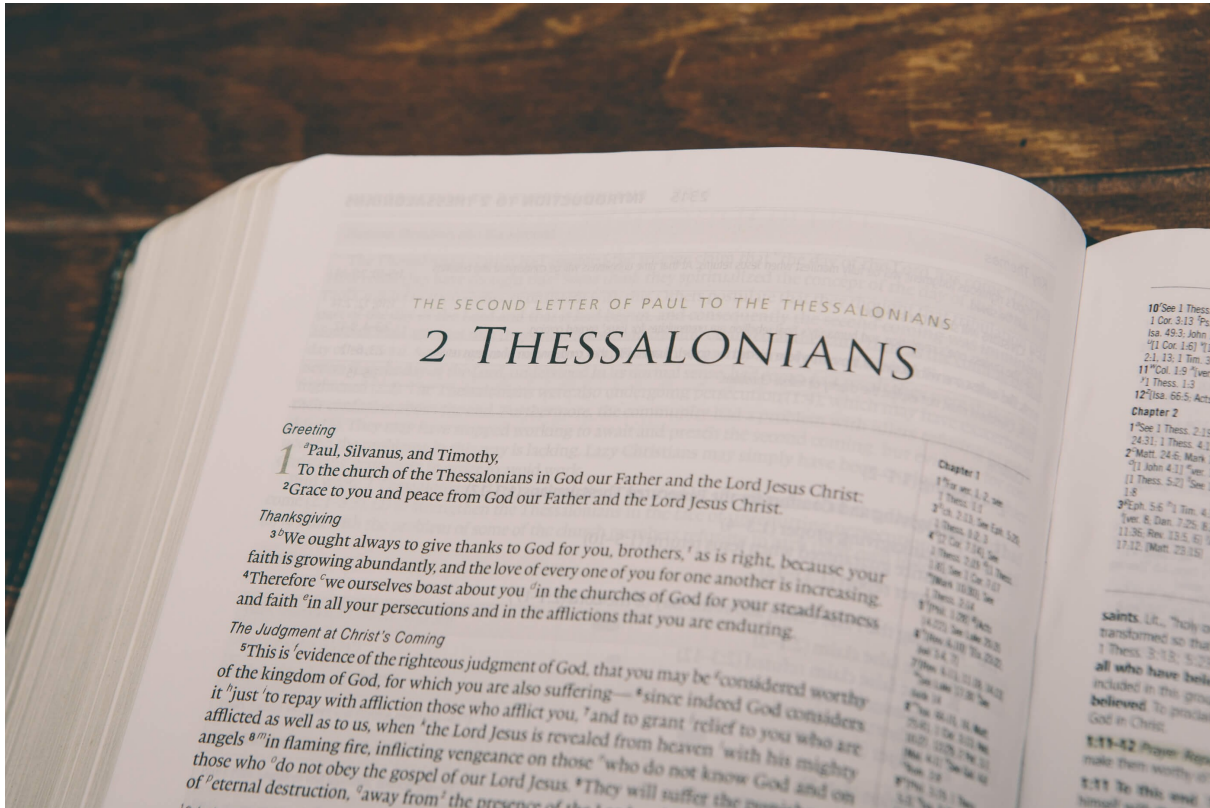


# Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



NOVEMBER 13, 2022

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church  
November 13, 2022, 10:30 a.m.  
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

**Prelude:** Hold Strong the Faith of Freedom

-Robert J. Hughes, 1988 / Irving Berlin, 1888-1989

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Moment for Mission**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

**Call to Worship**

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

All: **Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for God has done marvelous things.**

**Prayer of the Day** (*unison*)

**O God, our Redeemer,  
all creation sings your praise!  
You are justice and mercy,  
judgment and grace.  
Following our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we seek to be faithful,  
ever sustained by your Spirit,  
that we might stand blameless at the last  
with Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn:** "Lead on, O King Eternal"

No. 447

**\*Invitation to Confession**

Trusting in God's goodness to us,  
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**\*Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

God of Mercy,  
we confess that we have not been obedient sons  
and daughters.  
We have grown idle in the work of discipleship  
and weary in doing what is right.  
We have been selfish in our actions and insistent  
in claiming our rights.  
We have not honored the tradition of the apostles,  
or imitated the example of your saints.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Show us the way of repentance,  
free us from our idle ways,  
and strengthen us to be faithful disciples of  
Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray. Amen.

**\*Kyrie Eleison**

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news:  
Christ is merciful to all who turn to him in repentance.  
Believe in God, Friends!  
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**\*Gloria Patri** (*unison*)

*No. 579*

**Prayer of Illumination**

Almighty God,  
as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,  
reveal to us the way of salvation  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may not grow weary in doing what is right. Amen.

**First Scripture Reading:** Psalm 5

P. P. 490-491 in the Old Testament

You will say on that day:  
“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
and you comforted me.  
Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say on that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD;  
call on his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations;  
proclaim that his name is exalted.  
Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be known in all the earth.  
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

**Organ Anthem:** My Task

*-E. L. Ashford*

**Second Scripture Reading:** 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

P. 204 in the New Testament

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone’s bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

**Sermon:** Shirkers and Slackers

Rev. Jim DeMent

2 Thessalonians 6:10: For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat.

*Silence and stillness*

**\*Congregational Hymn:** “My Country ’Tis of Thee”

*No. 561 / 1740 English Tune*

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory:** Eternal Father, Strong to Save

*-John Bacchus Dykes, 1861*

**\*Doxology** (*unison*)

*No. 592*

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*unison*)

Loving God,  
before we give to you, you have given to us.  
All we offer we have received from you.  
We thank you for your goodness,  
and we praise you for your bountiful works,  
though Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

*From A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us in the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.  
In a broken and fearful world  
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn:** "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

*No. 379*

**\*Charge**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response** (*unison*)

*-Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880/William G Tomer, 1880*

God be with you until we meet again;  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With his sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you 'till we meet again

'Till we meet, 'till we meet  
'Till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
'Till we meet, till we meet  
God be with you 'till we meet again.

**Postlude:** Life Every Voice

*-J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921*

Below are the lyrics of the hymns selected for this morning's worship service. All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced, under license, from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990) or from Christian Copywrite Licensing International (*ccli.com*). If you are worshiping with us from home, we encourage you to sing along. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1

Verse 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

**Lead On, O King Eternal**

Lead on, O King eternal,  
The day of march has come;  
Henceforth in fields of conquest  
Thy tents will be our home:  
Through days of preparation  
Thy grace has made us strong,  
And now, O King eternal,  
We lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal:  
We follow, not with fears;  
For gladness breaks like morning  
Where'er Thy face appears;  
Thy cross is lifted o'er us;  
We journey in its light:  
The crown awaits the conquest;  
Lead on, O God of might.

Lead on, O King eternal,  
Till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
And holiness shall whisper  
The sweet amen of peace;  
For not with swords' loud clashing,  
Nor roll of stirring drums;  
With deeds of love and mercy  
The heavenly kingdom comes.

**My Country 'Tis of Thee**

My country, 'tis of thee,  
Sweet land of liberty,  
Of thee I sing:  
Land where my fathers died,  
Land of the pilgrims' pride,  
From every mountainside  
Let freedom ring!

Let music swell the breeze,  
And ring from all the trees  
Sweet freedom's song:  
Let mortal tongues awake,  
Let all that breathe partake;  
Let rocks their silence break,  
The sound prolong.

My native country, thee,  
Land of the noble free,  
Thy name I love;  
I love thy rocks and rills,  
Thy woods and templed hills;  
My heart with rapture thrills  
Like that above.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,  
Authority of liberty,  
To Thee we sing;  
Long may our land be bright  
With freedom's holy light;  
Protect is by Thee might,  
Great God, our King

**My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

His oath, His covenant, His blood  
Support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay.

When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
O may I then in Him be found,  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

**Refrain:**

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.

**A NOTE OF GRATITUDE  
IN RECOGNITION  
OF OUR VETERANS  
WHO WERE CELEBRATED ON  
NOVEMBER 11, 2022**



**Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests**

Gloria Aouelle

Bette Austin

Kay Edwards

Nathan Galvan  
(Son of Leila Galvan)

Billy Leske

Kathleen McCameron

Linda Patterson

Maria Pezeski  
(Mother of Leila Galvan)

Mikey Ruddock

Carol Wisdom  
(Daughter of Lea Lenz)

For caregiving concerns—please contact:  
Lynn McAuley (979.248.6238); or Gayla Whitaker (361. 935.0950)

**FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service**

**Wednesday, November 13**

10:00 AM Bible Study with Jim Stokes

**Monday, November 14**

2:00 PM Mary and Martha Circle

6:00 PM Session Meeting

**Sunday, November 20**

9:30 AM “The Protestant Reformations”

Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class

10:30 AM Worship Service

Hanging of the Greens

**FPC Victoria Servant Leadership  
Session Members**

Jim DeMent, Moderator

Francis Byrne, Mission & Outreach

John Horadam, Buildings & Grounds

Lynn McAuley, Asst. Clerk, Caregiving & Fellowship

Dawn Neel, Finance, Assistant Treasurer, Worship

Patrick Patterson, Buildings and Grounds

Becky Richter, Christian Education, Personnel

Suzanne Salinas, Mission & Outreach, Worship

Gayla Whitaker, Caregiving & Fellowship

Bonnie Wilkinson, Clerk of Session, Personnel

**Other**

Lynn McAuley, Presbyterian Women

Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School

Jim Stokes, Treasurer

Henry Hauschild, Historian

**Pastor's Notes**

One of the problems at the fledgling Christian church which Paul started in Thessalonica a few months before he writes not one but two letters is clear: “For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work” (2 Thess. 3:11). A tantalizing question for biblical scholars, however, is why is this so?

One explanation is that some in the community truly believed that Christ was returning soon-- certainly within their lifetime. Why work when the end is near? Such Christians may even have felt themselves morally superior; after all, they had the faith to believe that Jesus was coming soon and that meanwhile God would take care of them. A more prosaic explanation, however, is that some in the community were just lazy, preferring to live off the generosity of other Christians rather than fending for themselves.

Whatever the reason, Paul hated such idleness among the able-bodied. It sends the wrong signal about Christianity—that Christians are a parasitic people who feed off the hard work of others. The truth, in fact, is that such idleness is inconsistent with every Christian's desire to live, serve, and follow in the way of Jesus Christ.

**Clergy, Music, and Administration**

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor  
Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster  
Erica Colding, Office Administrator

**Office Hours**

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM  
361.575.2441  
info@fpcofvictoria.org